

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** April 7, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on March 31, 2006

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Thomas V. Skinner  
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur  
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Katrina Deployment: PRPs Identified, Paint Can Removal,  
Residential Area, New Orleans, Louisiana**

While deployed to assist with hurricane Katrina relief efforts and serving as a team leader, Civil Investigator Fred Bartman identified potentially responsible parties (PRPs) for paint left in a residential area of New Orleans, Louisiana. When observing a removal of over 1000 paint cans from a residential area, he noticed receipts and other information that identified the owner of the paint. Further investigation determined the identity of the contractor hired by the paint store to dispose of the paint.

The State attorney requested a report for potential prosecution of the contractor and business owner.

Contacts: Thomas Marks (312-353-6591)  
Fred Bartman (312-886-0776)

**TRAINING/CONFERENCES**

**Superfund/Regional Science Council Brown Bag Presentation,  
Sediment Trend Analysis**

On March 23, 2006, the Superfund/Regional Science Council Brown Bag Presentation, Sediment Trend Analysis (STA), was held. Mr.

Patrick McLaren, GeoSea Consulting Ltd. provided the presentation, "The Use of Sediment Trend Analysis in Sediment/Contaminant Management Issues". STA is a technique that enables patterns of net sediment transport to be determined by relative changes in grain-size distributions of naturally occurring sediments. It can determine the dynamic behavior of bottom sediments with respect to erosion, accretion or dynamic equilibrium. Its underlying premise is that sedimentary deposits leave a signature in their grain-size distributions that is not random, and which can provide essential information for development of sediment management strategies. STA was developed by GeoSea Consulting and has been used in a variety of settings involving dredged material and contaminated sediment management.

About twenty people attended this interesting presentation and following interactive discussion.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

#### **NRSC Workgroup Update, Contaminated Sediment Research White Paper**

In early 2005, the National Regional Science Council (NRSC) identified 14 cross media high priority regional science needs, which included contaminated sediments. A cross-program workgroup was formed under the lead of Rollie Hemmett, Region 2, to develop a white paper defining this science need and then to pursue resources for its implementation. Originally, funding was to come from a 20 million dollar funding pot proposed to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) fiscal year 2006 budget, but due to budget cuts, this didn't materialize. Over 2005 and into 2006, periodic calls have been held to discuss and finalize the white paper. Calls were held with the Office of Research and Development (ORD) and the ORD National Program Director for sediments to provide background information on this topic and pursue potential collaborative efforts. In addition, the workgroup pursued inclusion of this science need into ORD's multi-year planning process via the Contaminated Sediments Regional Research Advisory Group, for which Bonnie Eleder co-chairs. This effort was only partially successful. At the most recent conference call on March 28, 2006, the workgroup decided to revise the white paper to clarify the focus/need, and will pursue other avenues for its implementation by ORD. Bonnie Eleder is a member of the NRSC workgroup.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

#### **Regional Dredging Teams/National Dredging Team Calls**

Two periodic Regional Dredging Teams/National Dredging Team

(RDT/NDT) meetings were held via teleconference on January 4 and March 21, 2006. Bonnie Eleder, as the NDT liaison for the Great Lakes Regional Dredging Team (GLDT), participated on these calls.

Agenda items included: the upcoming annual meeting to be held in Boston, an update on the Water Resources Development Act, the upcoming national conference for dredged material management in the watershed, the finalization of the over depth dredging guidance, the final rule revising the Coastal Zone Management Act Federal consistency regulations, and the RDT report outs. The annual NDT/RDT meeting will be held May 3-5, 2006, in Boston; and the next call will be on July 13, 2006.

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